

Books defined as Inappropriate or Damaged for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschool-age Children for ERS Tools

These definitions pertain to all three tools. See items:

- ECERS-R, Item 15
- ITERS-R, Item 14
- FCCERS-R, Item 15

“Inappropriate” Books for Children: Books are considered inappropriate for children five years old and under if they contain images of any of the following:

- Children who are clearly in fear
- Any weapons
- Animals shown with blood or gore
- Humans or animals, whether realistic or illustrated, causing intentional harm or death to another being
- Threatening, harming, killing or death of any characters, including humans, animals, and any anthropomorphized things (e.g. gingerbread men)

Books with any of the above within reach or access of children five or under shall be considered inappropriate. Books accessible only to school age children need not be considered, unless made accessible to children during assessment.

“Damaged” Books: Books are considered damaged if covers are torn; any pages are missing; any words are unreadable; or if spines are damaged to the point where it is difficult to hold and turn pages. Damaged books shall not be included in the number, types, or content of books available. If four or more books are damaged as defined, credit will not be given in ITERS-R Item 14 or FCCERS-R Item 15, Indicator 3.2 “Almost all books are in good repair”.